



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Fire Preparedness Exercise		
PROJECT LOCATION	Lytle Creek Road, Fontana	COUNTY	San Bernardino
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	Glenn Barley		
ADDRESS	3800 N. Sierra Way San Bernardino, CA 92405	PHONE	(909) 881-6900

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Fire Preparedness Exercise (FPE) requires CAL FIRE, San Bernardino Unit personnel to demonstrate physical fitness and safe and effective use of fire suppression tactics in preparation for 2012 peak staffing. The FPE is located southwest of the I-15/215 interchange and north west of the Lytle Creek Exit off of the I-15. The project area is located in San Bernardino County within the City of Fontana. The total project area is 238 acres; however, not all this area will be impacted by project activities. Approximately 10 acres will be impacted per year. The FPE will consist of approximately 25 handlines being constructed by CAL FIRE Type I hand crews. The crews will utilize chainsaws to cut the brush (6 feet wide), and hand tools to remove surface vegetation exposing bare mineral soil (2 feet wide). No burning of the slash will occur. Engine crews will conduct progressive hose lays which will not involve the cutting of vegetation. Fire apparatus will be operated from pre-existing roads and previously graded surfaces to pump water for the progressive hose lay. No heavy equipment will be operated off pre-existing road surfaces and already disturbed soil areas.

EXEMPTION STATUS

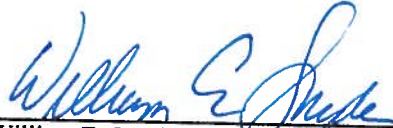
- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under the Class 4 (Minor Alterations to Land) Categorical Exemption to CEQA. A Minor Alteration to Land is described as a "minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry or agricultural purposes." This project as proposed constructs handlines and does not remove healthy, mature, or scenic trees. Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at CAL FIRE's BDU Headquarters in San Bernardino.

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 1/6/12
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection